

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 DLOS-09 IO-14 EB-08 COME-00
TRSE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 L-03 H-02 PA-02 ICAE-00
NSCE-00 SS-15 SP-02 DODE-00 INT-05 AGRE-00 EPAE-00
CEQ-01 DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 CTME-00
JUSE-00 FTC-01 FMC-02 OMB-01 ACDA-12 CEA-01 SSO-00
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O 071626Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, CA, US
SUBJECT: REMARKS OF GOC OFFICIALS REGARDING SPORTS
FISHING

REF: ROUSE/DUEMLING TELCON JUNE 7

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
RELATING TO SPORTS FISHING WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING
QUESTION PERIOD OF JUNE 5:

"MR. STUART LEGGATT (NEW WESTMINSTER): MR. SPEAKER,
MY QUESTION IS DIRECTED TO THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES
AND THE ENVIRONMENT. IT CONCERNS THE DECISION OF THE
UNITED STATES TO ENFORCE ITS FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND
CONSERVATION ACT AGAINST ALL CANADIAN SPORT FISHERMEN.
I UNDERSTAND THIS WILL APPLY NOT ONLY IN THE GREAT LAKES
BUT ALSO IN THE PACIFIC AND ATLANTIC REGIONS. WOULD
THE MINISTER ADVISE THE HOUSE WHAT RECIPROCAL ACTION HE
PROPOSES TO TAKE WITH REGARD TO THIS UNITED STATES
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RESPONSE?

"HON. ROMEO LEBLANC (MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND THE
ENVIRONMENT): MR. SPEAKER, WE ARE SEEKING CLARIFICATION.
WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR FROM THE BEGINNING THAT THE
SUSPENSION OF THE AGREEMENT WAS IN RELATION TO COMMERCIAL
FISHERY ACTIVITIES. I AM NOT AN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER,

NOR A LAWYER OF ANY KIND, BUT I UNDERSTAND THAT IN THE AMERICAN LEGISLATION THERE IS NO FLEXIBILITY COMPARABLE TO OURS. HOWEVER, WE ARE SEEKING CLARIFICATION ON THIS QUESTION.

"MR. LEGGATT: MR. SPEAKER, ASSUMING THERE IS CLARIFICATION, AND ASSUMING THE CLARIFICATION IS THAT THE LAW WILL BE APPLIED AS IT STANDS, HAS THE MINISTER HAD CARRIED OUT AN ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY IN TERMS OF ACTION BY CANADIAN AUTHORITIES TO END SPORT FISHING IN CANADA BY AMERICANS? HAS THE MINISTER SOME FIGURES WITH WHICH HE CAN DEMONSTRATE WHAT THE IMPACT ON OUR TOURIST INDUSTRY WILL BE IN THE EVENT OF SUCH DECISION? HAS HE ALSO HAD STUDIES CARRIED OUT IN TERMS OF THE AMOUNT OF SALMON WHICH WOULD THEN BECOME AVAILABLE TO CANADIAN SPORT FISHERMEN IN THE EVENT THAT RECIPROCAL ACTION IS NEEDED?

"MR. LEBLANC: YES, MR. SPEAKER, WE HAVE SOME INFORMATION OF THE KIND REFERRED TO BY THE HON. MEMBER. WHILE THE HON. MEMBER WAS ASKING ME A SECOND QUESTION, I WAS TRYING TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO HIM THAT CANADIAN WATERS ARE, IN FACT, OPEN TO RECREATION AND SPORT-FISHERMEN AT THE MOMENT AND FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. WE ARE SEEKING CLARIFICATION.

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"MR. PAUL DICK (LANARK-RENFREW-CARLETON): MR. SPEAKER, I WANT TO DISCUSS A MATTER WITH THE MINISTER IN RESPECT OF FISHERIES. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, IN REPLY TO THE HON. MEMBER FOR NEW WESTMINSTER, CLEARLY INDICATED TO THE HOUSE AND THE CANADIAN PEOPLE, AS WELL AS THE TOURIST INDUSTRY IN CANADA, THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD NOT ISSUED ANY DIRECTIVES, ORDERS OR ANYTHING OF THAT KIND, AND DOES NOT PLAN TO DO SO, BANNING AMERICAN TOURISTS FROM SPORT FISHING IN ANY WATERS UNDER CANADIAN JURISDICTION.

"WOULD THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OR THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES INDICATE, BECAUSE OF THE GREAT AMOUNT OF MEDIA COMMENT IN THE UNITED STATES THAT IS QUITE TO THE CONTRARY, WHETHER THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR THE CANADIAN TRAVEL BUREAU, OR PERHAPS TOGETHER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PROVINCES, WILL ADVERTISE IN THE UNITED STATES TO ASSURE TOURISTS THAT THEY ARE WELCOME IN CANADA AND WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE FULL USE OF OUR NORMAL SPORT FISHING FACILITIES AS IN THE PAST?

"HON. DONALD C. JAMIESON (SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS): OBVIOUSLY, MR. SPEAKER, IF THE SITUATION WERE TO DEVELOP TO THE POINT WHERE THAT KIND OF BAN WAS NECESSARY, IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED. I AM VERY HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT WITHIN A MATTER OF HOURS, AND CERTAINLY WITHIN A DAY OR TWO, THAT WHOLE QUESTION WILL BE RESOLVED.

"I HAVE THE IMPRESSION--AND IT IS PURELY THAT AT THE MOMENT--THAT NO ONE ON EITHER SIDE WISHES TO SERIOUSLY OBSTRUCT THE TOURIST BUSINESS, LEAST OF ALL WE IN CANADA. I HOPE THAT STATEMENT ON MY PART, COUPLED WITH THAT OF THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, WILL BE ENOUGH

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REASSURANCE AT THE MOMENT. THE REAL ANSWER IS TO ELIMINATE THIS PARTICULAR IRRITANT, AND I HOPE THAT WILL BE THE RESULT.

"MR. DICK: MR. SPEAKER, I APPRECIATE THAT COMMENT, WHICH WOULD AGAIN INDICATE THAT CANADIAN SPORT FISHING IS COMPLETELY OPEN TO TOURIST FISHERMEN FROM THE UNITED STATES. COULD THE MINISTER CONFIRM WHETHER THE UNITED STATES BAN ON SPORT FISHING IS IN RESPECT OF GREAT LAKES AND SALT WATER FISHING FOR CANADIAN TOURISTS GOING TO THE UNITED STATES? WOULD THEY BE PROHIBITED FROM FISHING OFF FLORIDA, OR PERHAPS EVEN ON THE OTHER SIDE OF LAKE ONTARIO?

"MR. JAMIESON: MR. SPEAKER, IT IS TO GET ANSWERS TO EXACTLY THAT KIND OF QUESTION THAT OUR OFFICIALS ARE NOW IN TOUCH WITH THE UNITED STATES. I WILL VENTURE A SPECULATIVE ANSWER TO THE HON. MEMBER BY SAYING THAT AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IT HAS TO DO WITH LICENSED BOATS, NOT WITH FISHERMEN. IN OTHER WORDS, IF A CANADIAN

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WISHED TO GO ON A U.S. LICENSED BOAT TO FISH, THERE IS NO PROHIBITION OR ANYTHING OF THAT NATURE.

"AS I UNDERSTAND IT, NEITHER DOES IT APPLY TO SOMEONE GOING ACROSS THE BORDER WITH HIS FISHING POLE, WANTING TO DO SOME FISHING. IT IS PEGGED SQUARELY ON THE FISHING VESSELS. THERE IS EVEN SOME QUESTION AS TO WHETHER IT IS IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS OR VESSELS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES. THESE ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS BEING CONSIDERED, AND I REMIND THE HON. MEMBER OF THE STATEMENT OF MY COLLEAGUE, THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, THAT NO SUCH RESTRICTION IS PRESENTLY IN FORCE OR IS CONTEMPLATED ON OUR SIDE OF THE BORDER."

DUEMLING

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